

10/538292

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE**

International Application No. : PCT/EP2003/013205  
International Filing Date : November 25, 2003  
Priority Date(s) Claimed : December 13, 2002  
Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US) : Michael Howard RAYNER-BRANDES

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRYING OF MICRO-ORGANISMS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 as follows:

**Timing and Fees**

- ☒ Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required for filing this information disclosure statement is filed:
- ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA under § 1.53(d);
  - ☐ within three months of the actual filing date of the national phase of a PCT application; OR
  - ☒ before the mailing of a first substantive office action (including after filing of an RCE).
- ☐ Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this information disclosure statement is filed after the periods specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of:
- a final rejection under 37 C.F.R. 1.113;
  - termination of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2); OR
  - a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; and

is accompanied by:

- ☐ the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set out below; OR
  - ☐ a check covering the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing date of the following actions which have not been withdrawn:
- ☐ a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
  - ☐ termination of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2);
  - ☐ OR a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311;

AND is filed on or before payment of the issue fee; AND is accompanied by:

the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) as set forth below, and the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Statements Under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application having a mailing date not more than three months prior to the filing date of this information disclosure statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the information disclosure statement.

Cited Materials

- ☐ Copies of materials listed but not attached were cited in benefit (35 U.S.C. § 120) ancestor application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, on Form 892 by the Examiner and/or Form 1449 by the applicant; see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☒ Copies of materials listed but not attached were cited in an international search report dated March 15, 2004.
- ☐ Not required by 37 CFR § 1.98.
- ☐ Copies of the materials listed are attached (except for the foregoing).

### Non-English Language References

☒ An English-language search report or equivalent paper from a foreign patent office is provided indicating the relevance of the cited reference(s).

☐ A foreign-language search report from a foreign patent office is provided, and pertinent parts are translated substantively below:

X = document of particular relevance when it is taken alone

Y = document of particular relevance when it is combined with another such document

A = document defining the general state of the art

O = non-written disclosure

P = intercalated document

T = document cited to understand the theory or principle underlying the invention

E = patent document which has the benefit of a date earlier than the filing date and which was published only on or after this filing date

D = cited in the application

L = cited for another reason

& = publication of member of same patent family

☐ Translation of other relevant information on foreign search report

[insert necessary translation here]

### Other Information

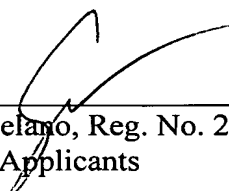
#### Payment of Fees Due (If Any):

☐ A check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ covering the fee identified above is attached.

☐ Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3402 \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the fee identified above.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #13-3402, two copies of this paper are attached for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3006

Date: June 10, 2005

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/538292

Filing Date

June 10, 2005

First Named Inventor

Michael Howard RAYNER-  
BRNADES et al.

Group Art Unit

Unassigned

Examiner Name

Unassigned

Sheet

1

of

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Attorney Docket Number

MERCK-3006

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	1	4886664		Jung Gerard et al	December 12, 1989
	2	4888171		Okonogi Shigeo et al.	December 19, 1989

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	3	WO	0105941		Codd Anthony Arthur	January 25, 2001		
	4	WO	0137656		Universal Preservation Technol	May 31, 2001		
	5	EP	0298605		Unilever Plc: Unilever NV (NL)	January 11, 1989		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Number refers to English language corresponding family member.

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